

## Mutual respect

The tradition and ethos of the school as regards behaviour rests on negotiation and the expectation of reasonable behaviour. We avoid formal sanctions as much as possible and place an emphasis on personal responsibility and reflection; an underlying principle was explained by a former Head: 'What limits? I sometimes find that is the most difficult question in the world, I can only find one answer – the limits imposed by generous consideration for the happiness of other people' (John Russell). This principle still holds true and we encourage students to consider others as much as possible and to reflect on the foreseeable consequences of their actions. Another founding principle is the involvement of our students in as many aspects of the school as possible and the development of self-government. The document 'Mutual respect' was hammered out in Pupils' Council over a period of time and represents the collective wisdom of students and staff.

It should also be seen as a work in progress and the next step is for Pupils' Council to take it to all the students and eventually to make a presentation to Council.

### Rights:

- Students have the right to work in a stimulating environment which promotes learning.
- Students have the right to express themselves, have their voice heard and to feel valued as an individual.
- Students have the right to be treated fairly, and to appropriately challenge unfairness.
- Students have the right to participate in the running of the school. This can be done through Pupils' Council, School Six and 6th form reps.
- Students and teachers have the right to give constructive comments.
- Students have the right to a clean working environment.
- Students have the right to leave their property in the knowledge that it won't be interfered with.
- Students have the right to feel safe and secure, free from threats and harassment (see Anti-Bullying Policy).
- Students have the right to have an open line of communication and be informed of all important decisions. Pupils' Council should be asked for advice as often as is appropriate.
- Students have the right to shed a negative reputation once they have reformed.

### Responsibilities:

- Students have the responsibility not to disrupt the class.
- Students have the responsibility to allow the teacher to teach in a way that is appropriate to the subject.
- Students have the responsibility not to undermine the teacher.
- Teachers have the responsibility to ensure that any work set to be done out of class is relevant and constructive.
- Students have the responsibility to look after the school environment (e.g. do not vandalise, litter or waste resources).
- Students have the responsibility to refrain from violence, unsafe actions and from threatening and harassing others.
- Students and teachers have the responsibility to make all new teachers and students feel welcome, realising that adjusting to the school may take time.
- Students have the responsibility to be good representatives of KAS when out of school.
- Students have the responsibility to respect expressed views. However this does not negate our right to challenge the expressed views of others.

At KAS we do not believe in a rigid set of rules and punishments. If a student disregards their responsibilities about expected behaviour, the consequences should be considered individually and be fitting to the action.

### Older student responsibilities...

- Older students have the responsibility to respect the guidelines of their privileges (e.g. leaving school during breaks) and to contribute to their duties (i.e. lunch duties and silencing duties).
- Older students have the responsibility to look after the welfare of younger students.